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HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS, INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES FOR IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

Cuba: draft resolution

Respect for the right to universal freedom of travel and vital importance of family reunification

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

Recalling the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1/

Stressing that, as stated in the Programme of Action adopted by the International Conference on Population and Development, 2/ held at Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994, family reunification of documented migrants is an important factor in international migration and remittances by documented migrants to their countries of origin often constitute a very important source of foreign exchange and are instrumental in improving the well-being of relatives left behind,

Recalling also its resolution 49/182 of 23 December 1994,

1/ Resolution 217 A (III).

2/ A/CONF.171/13, chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

1. Once again calls upon all States to guarantee the universally recognized freedom of travel to all foreign nationals legally residing in their territory;

2. Reaffirms that all Governments, particularly those of receiving countries, must recognize the vital importance of family reunification and promote its incorporation into national legislation in order to ensure protection of the unity of families of documented migrants;

3. Calls upon all States to allow, in conformity with national legislation, the free flow of financial remittances by foreign nationals residing in their territory to their relatives in the country of origin;

4. Also calls upon all States to refrain from enacting, and to repeal if it already exists, legislation intended as a coercive measure against another State which discriminates against individuals or groups of legal migrants by adversely affecting family reunification and the right to send financial remittances to their relatives in the country of origin;

5. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Respect for the right to universal freedom of travel and vital importance of family reunification".